THE MONTANA POST.

A Newspaper, Devoted to the Mineral, Agricultural and Commercial Interests of Montana Territory.

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The Montana Post

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BOSTON re-elected Shurtleff, Democrat, for Mayor, on Monday, by about 1,500 majority.

A FLEET of transports with 3,000 men, under convoy of two iron clads sail from Spain for Cuba to-day.

THE American steamer Wateree, wrecked off the coast of Chili some months since, has been sold for $3,200.

THE Spanish insurrection is likely to be a new version of "Much Ado About Nothing."

MARK TWAIN'S new book "The New Pilgrim's Progress," will be illustrated with cuts—at everybody he don't like.

The designation now applied to the aborigines is "the gentlemen without hats."

The $9,000 robbery will afford the Salt Lake *Telegraph* another eloquent theme in favor of polygamic prostitution.

In California there is one woman to three men; in Nevada one to eight; in Colorado one to twenty.

Montana has one woman 2-40; and some faster than that.

Reverdy Johnson is now known as "the international diner out."

We should like to see that "international diner out"—of office.

THE Spanish insurrectionists at Cadiz, at last accounts, signified their willingness to surrender their arms to General Calberro, commanding the Government troops.

Rossini had only celebrated his nineteenth birthday when he died, and yet he was 78 years old.—*Ex.*

That's the penalty for being born on the 29th of Feb'y.

The Cadiz insurrectionists have surrendered and given up their arms. About thirty persons have been arrested for inciting the troubles. "Order reigns in Warsaw."

TITIAN'S "Venus" is falling to pieces. *Buffalo Express.*

They all do it. Doesticks described the process some years ago.

MARSHAL O. ROBERTS, of New York, is on a smooth sea. His chances are favorable for the Senatorship, and his daughter is to be married to a worthy nephew of Washington Irving.

THE death of Mrs. Linen Sheets, a widow, is announced in Philadelphia.

It is rather strange that she was a widow. Linen sheets are generally *paired*. Death got between them that time, however.

THE crews of the vessels comprising the Peruvian fleet have mutinied at New Orleans. The police of the city decline to interfere and the conflict is still progressing—in words—between the officers and men.

Dana, of the *Sun*, who knows Horace Greeley and esteems him, trusts he will neither be sent to the Senate or the Post Office, as has been intimated, but to England as Minister. He says: "He will exercise such an influence as no American has wielded in Europe since the days of Ben Franklin." So say we. "Greeley for the Court of St. James." Mr. Dana's further proposition to run him for President in 1876, after Grant's second term, is not commendable. Mr. Greeley has been too fruitful of expressed thought to stand a fair show for election.

"Bon Mot of most exqisite irony"—We are at a loss to locate the compliment, if any is intended. Who are you hitting, "Cap?"—*Democrat.*

You are decidedly obtuse when you want to be. You don't have half so much misgiving as to where to "locate" the seat of government. If the Governor could call the attention of *that* Legislature to Grant's election and cite it as a "happy event," as telegraphed, you might allow us magnanimity for the little poetical license we indulged in, by mildly terming "irony" what was in fact a merciless blow at a fallen foe.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The Governor in recommending a memorial for a geological survey truthfully says:

"No other portion of the continent presents equal attractions to our men of science. Primitive and volcanic remains, petrifactions, fossils, hot, warm and medicinal springs, immense gold and silver deposits, coal, iron, copper, precious stones and marble, are found in great profusion and variety in all parts of the Territory. Our soil and climate are adapted to the highest cultivation."

Of this suggestion we have heretofore expressed earnest approval, and, pointing out a method by which it can be attained, hope the Legislature will deem it worthy of favorable consideration.

Upon the subject of railroads, he gives preference to the Northern Pacific, but also favors a memorial to Congress asking subsidy for the branch from the Union. In this we radically differ from His Excellency. What would be the object in the building of a branch to Montana by the U. P. Co? First, to stifle the northern road; second, to make a few millions from its subsidies, in its construction for its operation would be at a loss to the Company. General Dodge informed us the branch here was to be altogether independent of the Oregon Branch, and that it would not be built unless subsidized. Looking to the Northern road as of first importance, as premised by the Executive, is it not folly, if the Territory has any influence, to fritter it away on an object contemplating its defeat? We have water communication in the summer. It is a practicable winter route we desire. The telegrams a few days since demonstrated the Union Pacific road not one in which we can place dependence. The northern route is. We refer to the traditions of the country, the Exploration and Survey reports, the evidence of old settlers and historic record, to show it is less abstructed by snow; that its gradients are less; that its Rocky Mountain passes are 2500 feet, and the coast range passes 4000 feet lower; that its Pacific terminus is 1500 miles the nearest point for the Asiatic trade to reach our coast, and that it passes over a country unequalled in minerals, wood, water, and fertility, while the Central route is a barren waste. It gives us 500 miles of a main line through and through the heart of the Territory, and its terminus at Puget Sound has the same mean annual temperature, as Norfolk, Virginia. Besides, it is going to be built. Every indication points to it. The bill for a ship canal, around Niagara Falls, now before Congress is a great stepping stone to the enterprise and it will become a law. There are many reasons why "Congress should not be as liberal in its bequests to this lateral branch as the main trunk," and it is to be hoped that looking upon the subject as wise legislators, the efforts of our assembly will be thrown wholly in favor of this enterprise admitted "of the highest importance."

The recommendations to devise a method for a steady increase of populations by means of an Emigration Society, are eminently entitled to favor, and the plan suggested, as well as the tribute to the industry and good qualities of the emigrants from Northern Europe, evidences practical knowledge of the subject. Northern Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Dakotah are receiving their heaviest emigration from Norway, Sweden, Denmark and the countries bordering on the North Sea, and they are of the best that seek our shores.

On the subject of Indian treaties, the message gives in detail the objects accomplished by them. The Indian title has, by them, been extinguished in nearly all the settled portions of Montana. This unravels what was before an annoying legal tangle, as the greater portion of our lands which the government was surveying and selling had really been ceded to the Indians, and the government merely assumed the responsibility of afterward extinguishing the title to the lands. That system may work well enough with Indians, as in case the title could not be extinguished the Indians might, but upon general principles it would be dangerous. The treaties as existing, give the Mountain Crows the Yellowstone Valley, including Emigrant Gulch. The Governor recommends a supplementary treaty "extinguishing" them to the meridian 109½ W. The treaty with the Blackfeet tribes gives the whites all the territory above the mouth of the Marias, thus covering the road from Helena to Fort Benton. The Bannack and Snakes are located in the Salmon River Valley. These treaties are recommended for ratification.

The Governor favors the increase of the appropriation for a penitentiary to $100,000, and the early construction of the building. The necessity for a safe, substantial and commodious territorial prison is apparent to all, and we hope to see it commenced at as early a day as sufficient money is appropriated to insure its completion, and its location has been decided upon.

The remainder of the message is devoted mainly to the acquisition of British America, a consideration of the advantages that ensue therefrom, to which we will advert again, and a cheerful retrospect of the history of Montana. We give the concluding paragraph.

"With so much in our four years' life to encourage us in our labors, I may conclude with the exortation that we put away party spirit and local jealousies, and with placable temper and pure patriotism, unite our best efforts and energies for the glory of our country and the prosperity and good name of the coming commonwealth of Montana, ever trusting for direction and guidance, to that Providence who holds the destinies of individuals and nations in His Sovereign control

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The *Democrat* of the 12th contains the full text of the Governor's Message. It is the most comprehensive, practical, and sensible message the Legislature of Montana, although there are some very impractical suggestions in it, has had presented to it. He recommends some amendments to the California Practice Act. While they are amending, it is deemed desirable by many lawyers that the final chapters, stricken from the act last year, be adopted, as they are the chapters demonstrated to be essential by its practical workings. He recommends amendment of the jury law. As the law exists, jurors, witnesses and officers have no recourse to obtain fees from an insolvent party ordered to pay the costs, and in no way except by suit, from any obstinate party. The amendment of the Corporation Law is also recommended, upon the proper premise that roads and bridges should be public property, and that the ravenous franchises are an evil to the Territory.

Considerable space is devoted to impressing the Legislature with a sense of the importance of public schools, and a recommendation that men of experience and ability be selected to draft a bill providing for an improved common school system. If the Legislature would appropriate to schools annually, the amount they have voted themselves for extra compensation, and repeal the Extra Compensation Act, it would be worthy of highest commendation, place the common schools of Montana on a sure, prosperous basis and result in the welfare of all. The recommendation for the incorporation of a University of Montana, on the ground that a liberal act of this character would lead to its endowment by citizens, is less open to serious objection than we had anticipated from the telegrams. To have urged an endowment from the Territory would have been premature and ill advised in its present financial condition. The Common School is the broad, solid foundation of universal intelligence, and to lay that well requires all the energies and appropriations at present attainable. The incorporation of a University that is to be dormant in its functions for years, as the Historical Society has been scarcely commends itself as desirable.

The Governor devotes a large share of attention to the mineral interests, recommending a Fair for the exhibition of minerals, similar to that for agricultural products; also, premiums for the best mill or furnace, most skillful feeder or amalgamator, for the best proved lode, deepest and most skilfully sunk shaft, etc., the specimens of minerals to be exhibited to go into a Territorial cabinet. The first part of the proposition seems practicable enough, and would be an important adjunct to the Agricultural Fair, but the mill, lode and shaft business appears totally impracticable except at enormous expense. The committee would have to travel over the entire explored mineral country to accomplish the purpose.

The revivification of the Historical Society is spoken of encouragingly, and a memorial to Congress recommending an appropriation of $5,000 to provide it with a library, as has been done for other Territoritories. This Historical Society is of the first importance, and should be a live institution instead of the inanimate nothing it now is. The day and the opportunity that can never be recalled are gliding past and are unimproved. Other features in the message will be referred to on to morrow.

THE INDEPENDENT.

Mr. Rogers, of the *Independent*, is suffering from inherent caloric and choler. In loosing his self possession he abandons sense, and launches out wildly, leaving it questionable whether he deserves a reproof or should be granted the privileges conceded to lunacy. Whether or not he could be ashamed of his allusions to the POST on the Capital question, depends altogether upon the amount of self respect that is native to him in the intervals of his abberation. We therefore leave that to his own option, as it is a matter of total indifference to us.

He asserts, however, the declaration that the reason his protest against Governor Edgerton's course was not published was "because it avoided discussion of the only point involved, and was filled with invective unfit for publication," thus "saddling an infamouse falsehood upon the ashes of the dead, is ill becoming in the editor of the POST." We referred to Mr. Dimsdale's editorial, but Rogers thinks perhaps that he too is "dead," as upon him the falsehood is "saddled" like an "outfit" on a cayuse. We quote from an editorial of the POST of January 7th, 1865, of which Mr. Dimsdale was editor, the statement referred to·

"We are in receipt of a communication from Mr. Rogers, which, were it ever so consonant with our views, our limits would forbid us to publish this week, but whatever might be the amount of space at our disposal, it is contrary to our principles to make the only journal in the Territory the medium of *undeserved invective* against Gov. Edgerton. At the same time *we feel bound* to put Mr. Rogers' views before the public, and *it is his fault* that they are not couched in his own words. The main questions remain untouched, viz: the Governor's right in requiring the affirmation complained of, etc., etc."

Mr. Rogers seemed incapable then, as he does now, of confining himself to courteous discussion. We have no cognizance of the facts of this particular communication other than Mr. Dimsdale's articles, but are disposed to give it precedence of belief, although Mr. Rogers affirms it a falsehood, if "said by him that is dead." His confidence in the "judgment of an intelligent public" is not misplaced. It will only be his mistake in appealing to a tribunal that will do him justice.

LAND CLAIMS.

In view of the survey of townships and the preemption of lands, it is deemed desirable to call especial attention of claimants to the following requirements, that difficulty may be avoided. We quote from a statute still in force entitled, "An Act to authorize the investigation of alleged frauds under the pre-emption laws and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1843.

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SECTION 5. *And be it further enacted*, That claimants under the preemption law, for land not yet proclaimed for sale are required to make known their claims in writing, to the Register of the proper land office, within three months from the date of this act, when the settlement has been already made, and within three months from the time of settlement, when such settlements shall hereafter be made, giving the designation of the tract and the time of settlement; otherwise *his claim to be forfeited and the tract awarded to the next settler*, in the order of time on the same tract of land, who shall have given such notice, and otherwise complied with the conditions of the law.

THE conventions of the two political parties met in Denver, November 30th, to take action on the State question. The Republican convention favored and the Democratic disapproved of a State organization. The *News* is earnestly in favor of a State organization, and regrets that the Democracy did not favor the measure, as that would probably have prevented the anticipated veto of Mr. Johnson to the bill now in Congress. It is believed it can be passed with the Conkling's amendment referring the question and the suffrage clause to the people, even over Mr. Johnson's veto. We infer from the papers that the Republicans of Colorado are not generally very greatly excited on the subject, and that in the event of the reference of the question to a vote of the people, it would be a very close vote. The conventions appear to have left it in pretty much the situation it was before.

ACQUISITION.

The absorption of the entire continent with all its outlying islands is the "Manifest Destiny" of the Great Republic. It is possessing that begets the desire. The old Puritans did not have anticipations commensurate with the seeds the were planting when, 160 years ago, they sent out a party from Boston to survey roads and explore the country and adopted their report stating they had surveyed "to the bank by Mr. Bigelow's as far as they believed would *ever* be necessary, it being seven miles from the colleges at Cambridge." They did not contemplate the government of an area four hundred times as large as Massachusetts. But population multiplied. Stable government evolved from colonial chaos. Facilities for transportation and communication increased, and the cohesive properties have been equal to the strain of expansion. Still, British America has nearly as large an area as the United States, and in the continent and its natural adjuncts we have only a little more than a third possession. This is an humiliation the Americon eagle will not submit to. Mr. Seward, through Mr Johnson, desires St. Domingo, St. Thomas, St. Johns, Samana and Cuba immediately, and His Excellency, the Acting Governor of Montana, submits many good and well stated reasons why British America should be "ours to enjoy, ours to preserve, and ours to transmit, unimpaired, to posterity." This is a consumation devoutly to be wished if it does not involve the expenditure of too many millions, of which the Government has not a plethora at present.

Cuba appears to be on the market now at rather an advantage over all other real estate offered. A million and a half of people have tired of paying $33,000 000 annually for the support of government officials sent out from Spain. They do not admire laws that require their breadstuffs imported to be shipped from New Orleans to Spain and then back to Havana with the must of two ocean voyages and a heavy tax on them, before they can procure them, and above all they have a kindly regard for the United States. The insurgents are numerous and rapidly increasing, as victory rallies the hesitating to their banners. The appointment of Capt. General Dulce is not likely to pacify them, or two ironclads and three thousand soldiers intimidate. Caleb Cushing may not have gone to buy Cuba but its people are in open revolt against the Spanish government and marshal their hosts almost under the guns of Moro Castle, while their successes are significant when the authorities suppress the outgoing dispatches as they did the ingoing when Isabella was hooted from the Throne. If the troubles in Spain continue, the revolutionists of Cuba cannot be conquered as they were in 1823, 30, 50, 53 and 54, and as a measure of protection they will look to the United States for annexation. The Cubans are not educated to a truly Republican standard yet, but they never would be while under the dominion of a monarchy, and they would probably develop rapidly under the influence of the carpet baggers who would flock thither. Cuba is the key to the Gulf, a jewel of rare value in the casket of nations, and the lesser isles of the Antilles would light their war torches at her bonfires of victory. Success to the revolutionists, Live the Republic, and may the North and the South have added unto them in plenty and in peace.

NEWSPAPERS IN SCHOOLS.

A new idea in education is evolving itself and about to be submitted to practical test, viz., substituting newspaper for the reading exercises in schools, in place of the "Readers" in present use. It is to be tried in St. Joe and Philadelphia the newspapers say. The assumption is that the current events of the day are more interesting to, and contain more valuable information for, the youth of the age than the selections that make up our "Readers." The project is strongly favored by some and ridiculed by others, the ridiculers having in the van the New York *Tribune*. It is certainly susceptible of many arguments pro and cou, and probably can only be decided by its practical effects. The Readers are made up of selections prepared to suit the attainments and comprehensions of the various grades of scholars, and are generally in pure English, inspiring good morals, and cultivating the taste to appreciate and follow the style of the finest writers. This cannot be wholly attained by current literature. On the other hand the various publications of the day from the *Little Corporal* and the school journals to the great *Nation* or *Atlantic*, present every element of literature in language adapted to the comprehension of the various ages and degrees of progress. A judicious selection might obviate the first objection. It is also an important object to inspire a taste for reading, as well as to improve the taste, and all are aware with what greedy voracity young as well as old dive into and enjoy the newest book or the latest newspaper. It would be a wonderful incentive to study, for reading is study; casual, thoughtless, as it might be, there would still be caught and tethered in the memory, here and there, the steeds upon which thought would afterward explore the great unknown. It would give knowledge of current events, and the circumstances that directly surround and effect them. That there are publications unfitted for use in schools is no material objection, as we regard it, although this is the strong point of its opponents. A newspaper that inculcates immorality, or obscenity, should not be admitted, and if that which is now pure enough for the parent is not good enough for the child, it might lead to good results in controlling and improving the taste of the parents and through them the tone of newspapers themselves which are manufactured to supply a demand that exists. Perhaps after all, the truth lies middle ways, and a combination of the two, the newspaper for needful diversion from the severer discipline of books, will prove the golden mean.

WE a'n't a bit selfish; generosity is a proverbial and salient trait in our character. Let any one who doubts it ask us for something—good advice for instance—and see whether we will not bestow it with a liberality that would eclipse Peabody. But then there is a point in good nature upon which, when assurance trenches, it will be reproved. The Leavenworth *Bulletin* appropriates a number of the few passable things that occasionally crop out in the POST, and by horrible local adaptations, palms them off on its credulous readers for original. We speak for the courtesies of the craft, and await from the *Bulletin* "a fellow's apology."

MR. G. W. STAPLETON writes the *Gazette* he was not a member of the Bannack Legislature. Very good, we mark a credit to the Legislature.

TELEGRAMS state an attack of the Turkish army on the Cretans is imminent.

OUR VIRGINIA LETTER.

The Propelling Power at the Capital—The Divorce Question—Admission of Attornies—A Frolic at 54--An Expose by one whe was there.

EDITORS POST:—Cheap whisky has the ascendancy in this city. Let a man stand on the corner of Jackson and Wallace streets, from breakfast time until the sun sinks behind the Rubies, and make a note of the persons passing along each thoroughfare, and he will find at the close of the day, that nine out of every ten have stopped from one to three times at the various saloons to "take a drink." Whisky is the propelling power of the Legislature and the lobbies; and it is difficult to determine whether the "outside" or "inside" members get the most of it. The Supreme Court and the bar are not entirely exempt from the influence; though the Court may well be regarded as sound. If you see a couple of men walking arm in arm, in close conversation, you may be sure that their destination is the first saloon. No squad assembled on the corners breaks up without first taking a drink. Follow a member from the Legislative Hall, and he will lead you into the adjoining saloon. Where does all the whisky come from that supplies this people? What is it made of, and what is to be the ultimate effect of this ostentatious depravity. The "Parson" would grow eloquent upon this subject, but for the interposition of more important affairs, and the necessity to which that would impose him of being regarded an exemplar. As I do not wish to be singular in this matter, I take an occasional "smile" myself. A good deal of business is maturing for legislative action, though but little has been done in either House since my last.

Yesterday a bill was introduced in the House to repeal and amend the mining law; read twice and referred to a committee. Of its provisions I know nothing, but am bound to presume from the fact that the Legislature evinces a desire to improve everything, that it is better than the old law.

The resolution in relation to divorces was reconsidered, and indefinitely postponed. This revives the power, which but the day before was destroyed. This is a bad symptom in legislation, and I hope, before the adjournment, that the original resolution will be adopted. These legislative divorces never regard but one side of a case. Several have been granted in this Territory, where the party really injured, was not heard at all. In most cases it is the man who applies to the Legislature, and where this is the case, it is fair to presume that he is in the wrong, and seeks legislative action to obtain that which a court of justice on full hearing would never grant.

The old law adopted at Bannack, regulating the admission of Attorneys, and which, in one form and another, has been brought before every Legislature since, has finally received its death wound, and a simple act, which has just passed both Houses, consisting of one or two sections makes the subject comprehensible.

Entre Nous. We had a party the other night on the occasion of the 54th birth day of one of the defunct officials of the Territory.

There were about twenty in attendance, some of whom were ladies, and the others consisted of Judges, lawyers and members of the Legislature. Like all Virginia assemblies it was remarkable for joviality and good feeling. During the evening a temporary adjournment to the Governor's rooms—dubbed by Major Bruce "Tooleries"—took place, at which the inner man was fortified spiritually, and on the return one of the party dropped out, and was heard of no more. But the festivities continued into the "wee sma hours," and a few at the close, reassembled at the "Tooleries," and run the thing till morning, leaving the Governor minus a keg full of good whisky, after making night hideous in that neighborhood, with divers songs, speeches, recitations, in which, from the highest official to your humble contributor, all joined. During the entertainment, and as an evidence of the liberal spirit which prevailed, Gladstone and his Ministry were endorsed. "Thanatopsis" was read by the "Parson," Johnny Schmoker was sung judicially, and the Star Spangled Banner, by the crowd, was accompanied by a prodigious Gubernatorial *base*. The worthy "Commodore" who is equally at home as President of the Council or at a convivial party, wound up the ceremonies with "*Lanigan's bawl.*" MORE ANON.

VIRGINIA CITY, Dec. 13, 1868.

OUR legislators may be wise men, and honest, but two bills have been lost that, if properly drawn, were desirable additions to our statutes. One was the three-fourths jury system for civil cases, approved by every lawyer we have consulted on the subject, and the other, an act whereby jurors, witnesses and officers of the court would have their just fees guaranteed to them. It cannot be possible that the Legislature will leave this matter as it now stands.

THE *Gazette* says its editor and another persoa once agreed that there was nothing better than multiplied drinks of whisky. We have no doubt he still maintains that conviction as one of the "eternal principles" of Democracy, for his leading article of yesterday was proof positive of a mental "obfustification," that could only have had its origin in multiplied visits from "the enemy that men put in their mouths to steal away their brains."

Ice which was put up in America in 1865, is now selling in the East Indies